

REMARKS

Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the present application in view of the reasons that follow. Claims 13-21 remain pending in this application.

Applicant wishes to thank the Examiner for the careful consideration given to the claims as well as indicating that claims 13-21 contain allowable subject matter.

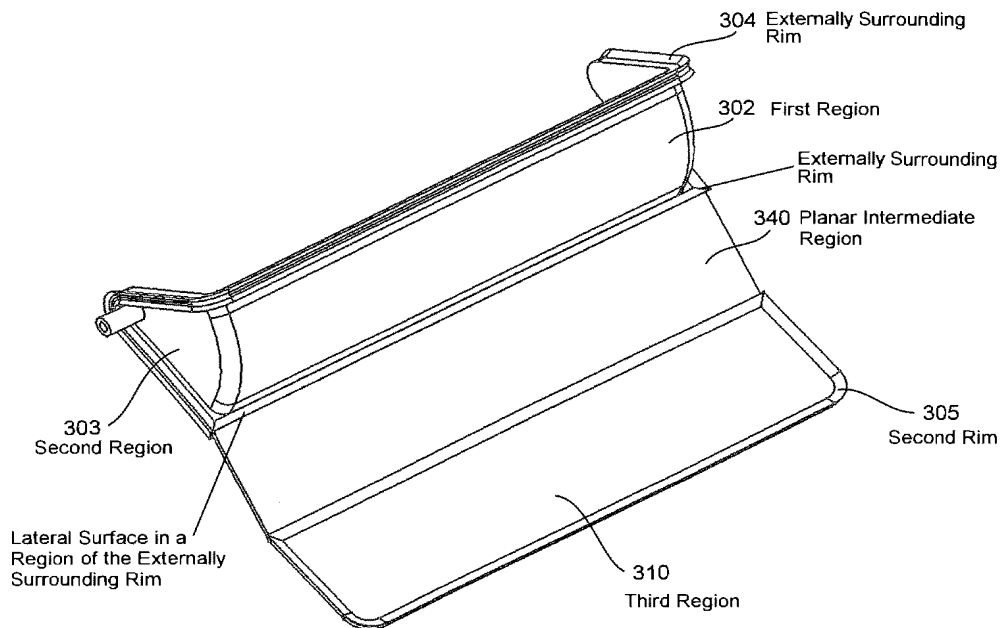
Information disclosure statement

Applicants respectfully requested consideration of information disclosure statement (IDS) filed on October 4, 2010, and a copy of a fully initialed and signed PTO/SB/08 form accompany the next office communication.

Rejection based on 35 U.S.C. 112

Claims 13-21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, for allegedly being indefinite. In relation to the terms “lateral surface” and “a region” in claims 13, 17, and 21, the PTO asserts that “it is unclear what applicant is considering a lateral surface and a region.” (Page 2 of the Office Action.) This rejection is traversed for at least the following reasons.

Claim 13 recites “a planar intermediate region arranged at an angle not equal to 180° from the third region, wherein the third region indirectly adjoins a lateral surface in a region of the externally surrounding rim via the intermediate region.” This language is clear to one of ordinary skill in the art. For example and as shown in the Fig. 16 of the present application below, a “lateral surface in a region of the externally surrounding rim” may simply refer to a side surface of a portion of the externally surrounding rim. Of course, these claim terms are not limited to these definitions or the examples described or depicted in application, but one of ordinary skill in the art would find the language of claim 13 clear, definite, and understandable by using their plain ordinary meanings of these claim terms. Because claim 13 is definite, the rejection of claim 13 should be withdrawn.



The language of claims 17 and 21 is also clear, definite, and understandable for similar and/or analogous reasons as the language of claim 13.

Claims 14-16 and 18-20 are allowable by virtue of their dependency from claim 13 or 17.

For at least these reasons, favorable reconsideration of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Rejection of claims 1-4, 6, and 10-12 based on Philippe

Claims 1-4, 6, and 10-12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as allegedly being unpatentable over FR 2 771 966 (“Philippe”)¹. Although Applicant disagrees with the PTO’s characterization of Philippe and believes the rejection based on Philippe is improper, in order to expedite prosecution, claims 1-4, 6, and 10-12 have been canceled, which renders the rejection of these claims moot. For at least these reasons, favorable reconsideration of the rejection is respectfully requested.

¹ The Office Action refers to Philippe as “Pierre.”

Conclusion

Applicant believes that the present application is now in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested.

The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned by telephone if it is felt that a telephone interview would advance the prosecution of the present application.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required regarding this application under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16-1.17, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 19-0741. Should no proper payment be enclosed herewith, as by the credit card payment instructions in EFS-Web being incorrect or absent, resulting in a rejected or incorrect credit card transaction, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the unpaid amount to Deposit Account No. 19-0741. If any extensions of time are needed for timely acceptance of papers submitted herewith, Applicant hereby petitions for such extension under 37 C.F.R. §1.136 and authorizes payment of any such extensions fees to Deposit Account No. 19-0741.

Respectfully submitted,

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